

John Boehner
Chairman
8th District, Ohio

House Meets at 10:00 a.m. for Legislative Business

Anticipated Floor Action:

H.R. 1122—Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act (Motion to Override Veto)

H.R. 4193—FY 1999 Interior Appropriations Act

H.R. 4194—FY 1999 VA/HUD Appropriations Act

**H.R. 4276—FY 1999 Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary
Appropriations Act**



H.R. 1122—Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act (Motion to Override Veto)

Floor Situation: The House will consider a motion to override President Clinton's veto of H.R. 1122 as its first order of business today. The motion is debatable for one hour. To override the veto, the motion must achieve a two-thirds majority of those members present and voting.

Summary: H.R. 1122 prohibits medical doctors who perform abortions from utilizing "partial-birth" abortion procedures. As defined by the bill, such a procedure involves deliberately and intentionally delivering a living child, or a substantial portion thereof, into the vagina for the purpose of performing a procedure the physician knows will end its life, and then proceeding to kill the child. The bill imposes fines or potential imprisonment of up to two years, and allows the father or maternal grandparents (if the birth mother is under 18 years of age) to file a civil lawsuit against the doctor for monetary damages. The bill, however, includes an exception to the ban when a partial-birth abortion is necessary to save the life of the mother. H.R. 1122 also allows a defendant to have a hearing in front of the medical board in the state where the partial-birth abortion procedure was performed. The hearing would be designed to determine whether the procedure was in fact necessary as defined by the bill. The defendant also must be granted a 30-day delay in the beginning of any civil trial if a hearing is sought before the state medical board and the defendant files a motion for such a delay. Findings from the hearing may be used in a civil trial against the defendant upon its conclusion. H.R. 1122 passed the House by a vote of 295-136 on March 20, 1997; the Senate passed the bill, as amended, by a vote of 64-36 on May 20, 1997. President Clinton vetoed the measure on October 10, 1997.

Views: The Republican Leadership supports passage of the motion to override the president's veto.

Other Information: For information on H.R. 1122 as it went to the House floor, see *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVI, #7, March 14, 1997.



H.R. 4193—FY 1999 Interior Appropriations Act

Floor Situation: The House will continue considering H.R. 4193 after it completes consideration of the veto override motion on H.R. 1122. Yesterday, the House completed debate on all amendments under an open rule, but postponed votes on those amendments specified below. The rule permits the chairman of the Committee of the Whole to postpone votes and reduce the voting time on a postponed vote to five minutes, so long as it follows a regular 15-minute vote. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Summary: H.R. 4193 appropriates \$13.4 billion in new FY 1999 budget authority, \$680 million less than last year (mostly due to special funding provided last year for priority land acquisitions) and \$838.8 million less than the president's request. The bill's spending is equal to the subcommittee's 302(b) allocation for discretionary budget authority. Approximately half of the bill's funding, \$6.6 billion, finances Interior Department programs to manage and study the nation's animal, plant, and mineral resources. The balance of the measure's funds support other, non-Interior agencies that perform related functions. These include the Forest Service, conservation and fossil energy programs run by the Energy Department, and the Indian Health Service, as well as the Smithsonian Institution and similar cultural organizations. Specifically, the measure allocates:

- * \$1.3 billion for the operation of the National Parks, \$99.3 million more than last year and \$12.5 million more than the president's request;
- * \$744.8 million for the Fish and Wildlife Service, \$27.7 million less than in FY 1998 and \$73.3 million less than the president's request;
- * \$919 million for wildland fire management;
- * \$2.2 billion for the Indian Health Service, \$147.4 million more than in FY 1998 and \$127.8 million more than the president's request;
- * \$1.7 billion for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, \$10.2 million more than last year and \$130.6 million less than the president's request;
- * \$80 million for Everglades restoration, an increase of \$20 million;

In addition, the measure includes (1) \$98 million for the National Endowment for the Arts (equal to last year's level); (2) \$110.7 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities (equal to the FY 1998 level); (3) \$397.5 million for the Smithsonian (a \$4.8 million decrease); (4) \$64.2 million for the National Gallery of Art (a \$2.2 million increase); (5) \$21.2 million for the Kennedy Center

(an \$812,000 increase); and (6) \$31.7 million for the Holocaust Museum (equal to the FY 1998 level). Finally, the bill eliminates the timber purchaser credit program.

Views: The Republican leadership supports passage of the bill. The Clinton Administration has threatened to veto the bill if it is not modified from its present form. Specifically, the administration opposes (1) the funding reductions for certain programs, such as the Land and Water Conservation Fund; and (2) certain legislative provisions (e.g., granting an easement through the Chugach National Forest and terminating the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project).

Amendments: Yesterday, the House completed debate on all amendments under an open rule, but did not vote on those specified below:

- * an amendment by **Mr. DeFazio, Mr. Herger, and Mrs. Capps** (#2) to strike the provision in the bill that extends the recreational fee demonstration program for another two years. The program allows parks and public lands to collect additional fees and retain 80 percent for on-site operational enhancements and critical maintenance; the remaining 20 percent is spent at other units. The authors of the amendment contend that the program created a host of new unpopular fees—new trails fees, entrance fees, and other user fees—and that there has not been adequate congressional oversight or a system-wide audit of the program to ensure that collected fees are being used for their intended purpose. However, opponents of the amendment argue that the program, in its relatively early stage of development, has already been a successful tool that funds a critical backlog of maintenance projects at national parks and other public lands. *Staff Contact: Jeff Stier (DeFazio), x5-6416*
- * an amendment by **Mr. Hinchey** to strike the requirement in the bill that the Agriculture Secretary grant a 250-foot-wide easement through the Chugach National Forest in Alaska to build “public roads and related facilities.” The bill currently does not waive environmental requirements with respect to actual road construction. The United States signed an agreement in 1982 promising a group of Alaska Natives (the “Chugach Natives”) road access to Native-owned lands in the Chugach National Forest. This road access is an essential part of settling their decades old Native American land claims. Proponents of the amendment contend that the federal government has delayed granting them the easement needed for the road access by throwing up bureaucratic hurdles for years and that the amendment will finally honor the government’s promise made to the Chugach Natives 16 years ago. However, opponents argue that the road may cause environmental damage and that environmental studies are currently underway to evaluate the proposal. *Staff Contact: Chris Arthur, x5-6335*
- * an amendment by **Mr. Miller (CA)** (#16) to prohibit funds in the bill from being used to construct new roads in the Tongass National Forest in Alaska. The sponsor of the amendment contends that the Tongass logging program lost more money than any other national forest in the country and yet the agency continues to build roads there. However, opponents of the amendment contend that the amendment breaks the good-faith compromise agreed to by Republicans and supported by some Democrats that eliminates the Timber Purchaser Credit Program. In addition, they argue

that halting road construction will stop timber sales and thus eliminate 750 jobs.

Staff Contact: *Jeff Petrich x5-6065*

- * an amendment by **Mr. Pappas** to increase funding for National Park Service land acquisition and state assistance by \$50 million (the bill currently provides \$69 million) and offset the increase by reducing funding for the National Endowment for the Arts by \$50 million. **Staff Contact:** *Paul Pisano, x5-5801*
- * an amendment by **Mr. McDermott** to strike limits in the bill on the use of Forest Service and Interior Department funds for Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project. The bill currently establishes a four-month deadline by which the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) must (1) prepare a report on the social and economic impacts of regional management of the watershed; (2) distribute the scientific findings that are relevant to the Forest Service and BLM; and (3) close project offices. The bill also requires that scientific findings developed by the project be integrated into the resource management plans of all Forest Service and BLM planning units. **Contact:** *x5-3106*

Additional Information: See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVII, #19, July 17, 1998.



H.R. 4194—FY 1999 VA/HUD Appropriations Act

Floor Situation: The House will consider H.R. 4194 after it completes consideration of H.R. 4193. Last Friday, the House completed general debate and began consideration of amendments under an open rule. The rule waives points of order against the bill for containing measures within the jurisdiction of the Budget Committee that were not reported by it. It also waives House rules prohibiting unauthorized appropriations, legislative measures in an appropriations bill, and reappropriations, except for the measure to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to restore fire retardant standards for children's sleepwear. The rule accords priority in recognition to members who have their amendments pre-printed in the *Congressional Record*. The rule permits the chairman of the Committee of the Whole to postpone votes and reduce the voting time on a postponed vote to five minutes, so long as it follows a regular 15-minute vote. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Summary: H.R. 4194 appropriates \$94.4 billion in new budget authority—\$4.4 billion more than in FY 1998 (\$3.1 billion more in discretionary spending) and \$7.8 billion less than the president's request (because of \$7.7 billion in advance appropriation requests by the president)—for veterans benefits, housing programs, and various agencies dealing mostly with science, space, and the environment. A majority of these funds, \$71 billion, go toward discretionary spending programs, while the remaining \$22.3 million is mandatory spending (outside of the control of the Appropriations Committee).

A large portion of the bill's funding, \$42.3 billion, supports the Department of Veterans Affairs' efforts to provide extensive health, housing, education, and compensatory benefits to military veterans

and their dependents. The measure provides \$26.6 billion for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)—\$5.1 billion more than in FY 1998 and \$1.7 billion more than the president's request—including \$9.6 billion for Section 8 housing rental assistance. The bill increases funding for homeless assistance to \$975 million (a \$152 million increase) and provides \$4.7 billion for community development block grants. In addition, the measure increases the value of home mortgages that the Federal Housing Administration may insure from \$86,317 to \$109,032 in most areas of the country and from \$109,032 to \$197,620 in high cost areas.

H.R. 4194 provides \$7.4 billion for the Environmental Protection Agency (a \$59.6 million increase). This amount includes: (1) \$656.5 million for EPA research and development (a \$25.5 million increase); (2) \$1.5 billion for Superfund cleanup work, which includes \$75 million for the "brownfields" program; (3) \$1.25 billion for clean water state revolving funds and \$775 million for safe drinking water state revolving funds; and (4) \$817.3 million for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The measure also provides \$13.3 billion for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), including (1) \$3.1 billion for the space shuttle program, (2) \$2.1 billion for the International Space Station, (3) \$1.35 billion for the Earth Observing System, and (4) \$3.6 billion for the National Science Foundation. Finally, the measure eliminates funding for the AmeriCorps program.

The bill replaces the 1937 United States Housing Act—the basis of all federal housing programs—with a new housing framework (essentially the House-passed version of H.R. 2, the Housing Opportunity and Responsibility Act) and consolidates into a new block grant program the existing programs through which tenant-based rental assistance is currently provided through Section 8 certificates and vouchers.

CBO estimates that enactment of H.R. 4194 will result in outlays of \$52.5 billion in FY 1999, \$22.5 billion in FY 2000, \$9.6 billion in FY 2001, \$3.9 billion in FY 2002, and \$4.1 billion in FY 2003 and future years. The bill was submitted by Mr. Lewis (CA); the Appropriations Committee ordered the bill reported by voice vote on June 24, 1998.

Views: The Republican leadership supports passage of the bill. The Clinton Administration has threatened to veto the bill if it is not modified from its present form. Specifically, the administration opposes (1) the funding reductions for certain programs, including the AmeriCorps program; (2) bill language placing restrictions on the EPA; and (3) the Leach-Lazio housing amendment in its present form.

Amendments: On Friday, the House began considering amendments under an open rule. At press time, the *Legislative Digest* was aware of the following amendments to H.R. 4194:

Mr. Allen may offer an amendment to clarify that committee report language restricting a number of EPA activities does not apply to EPA regulatory determinations for mercury emissions from utilities. The committee report directs the EPA to complete various studies before issuing rules limiting mercury emissions from utilities. The EPA recently issued two reports to Congress addressing mercury emissions and in April 1998, the agency announced it intended to make a regulatory determination about supplemental controls on utility mercury emissions by November 15, 1998. The Appropriations Committee believes that there is insufficient scientific understanding of mercury and that additional time is needed before the EPA finalizes any regulatory determinations. However, the sponsor contends that the language impedes the EPA's ability to address this issue and impedes

the public's right to know how much mercury their local utility releases into the air each year. **Staff Contact: Stella Livanios, x5-6116**

Mr. Bereuter may offer an amendment (#1) to reduce the total funding for the Office of the EPA Administrator by \$15 million. **Staff Contact: Allen Feyerherm, x5-4806**

Mr. Bereuter may offer one of two amendments (#2 or #20) to:

- * prohibit the use of EPA funds to continue implementing treatment requirements for copper levels in drinking water until certain studies are completed by the EPA and the Centers for Disease Control. Upon completing the studies, the EPA may then establish an appropriate copper level based on the studies' results; and
- * prohibit the use of EPA funds to implement or enforce any national primary drinking water regulation for copper. The sponsor of the amendment maintains that the EPA is implementing a rule on copper concentrations in drinking water that is not supported by available scientific evidence. **Staff Contact: Allen Feyerherm, x5-4806**

Mr. Bereuter may offer an amendment (#3 or #21) to prohibit the use of EPA funds to propose, promulgate, or implement any rule that requires public water systems that rely on groundwater to use disinfection. The sponsor contends that, since the statutory deadline for the groundwater rule is May 2002, the amendment simply prevents the EPA from hastily promulgating a rule that is not based on sound science. **Staff Contact: Allen Feyerherm, x5-4806**

Mr. Engel may offer an amendment (#28) to express the sense of Congress that public water systems supplied by surface water sources that are required to use water filtration to meet federal drinking water standards should be allowed to apply to the EPA to use alternative means of meeting drinking water standards. **Staff Contact: Oliver Kellman, x5-2464**

Mr. Greenwood may offer an amendment (#13) to clarify that the bill language that prohibits implementation of the Kyoto Protocol on climate change does not prevent any action that is authorized by current law. **Staff Contact: Judy Borger, x5-4276**

Mr. Gutierrez may offer an amendment (#4) to enable members or former members of a reserve component (National Guard and reserves) to access sexual trauma counseling and treatment at VA facilities in the same manner as other former military personnel. In addition, the amendment reauthorizes the VA sexual trauma counseling program through December 31, 2002. **Staff Contact: Mark Fine, x5-8203**

Mr. Hinchey may offer an amendment (#22) to prohibit the use of VA funds to implement the Veterans Equitable Resource Allocation system (VERA). VERA was established to provide medical care funding to regions across the country in a more equitable fashion. The system was created in response to findings that indicated the veteran population is shifting to different parts of the country but health care dollars are not. The VA's plan employs an allocation formula that ties funding for each of the 22 geographic regions to the numbers of veterans they actually serve. Some lawmakers fear that the Northeast and Midwest (where the veterans population is decreasing) may lose funding and subsequently result in a decrease in both the quantity and quality of health care. **Contact: x5-6335**

Mrs. Kelly may offer an amendment to require the Veterans Secretary to make available \$20 million for Veterans Integrated Service Network-3 (VISN-3; which covers the New York area) in the form of a one-time credit toward funding reductions required under the Veterans Equitable Resource Allocation system. A General Accounting Office study revealed that the VISN-3 director returned \$20 million of the FY 1997 budget to Washington, at the same time the Office of the Medical Inspector found more than 156 separate health and safety violations. Further, none of the \$20 million was credited toward the network's total funding reduction required by the Veterans Equitable Resource Allocation system. The committee report urges the VA Secretary to make the one-time credit. *Staff Contact: Al Garesche, x5-5441*

Mr. Riggs may offer an amendment to prohibit funds in the bill from being used to implement the San Francisco ordinance that requires groups doing business with the city to provide domestic-partner benefits to their employees. The ordinance, adopted last year, resulted in the Salvation Army (which provided beds and meals to AIDS patients) losing its funding because the group refused to comply with the ordinance. The sponsor of the amendment maintains that federal funds should not be used as a threat to force private groups and businesses to adopt policies they find morally objectionable. *Staff Contact: Mark Davis, x5-3311*

Mr. Roemer may offer an amendment (#5) to effectively eliminate funding for the international space station program. Specifically, the amendment reduces funding for the project by \$1.6 billion (leaving \$500 million available for close-out costs). In 1993, NASA indicated the space station would cost \$17.4 billion; however, that figure has continued to rise over the past five years. An independent review ordered by NASA recently stated that the project may cost \$24.7 billion. Congress has generally supported NASA's plan to build a permanently occupied space station in Earth orbit where astronauts will live and conduct research. NASA expects that research performed in the near-zero gravity environment of the space station will result in new discoveries in life sciences, biomedicine, and materials sciences. However, some lawmakers question why a space station is needed, how much it will cost, the degree to which it is dependent on Russian participation, and whether Russia can fulfill those commitments. *Staff Contact: Pete Spiro, x5-3915*

Mrs. Roukema may offer an amendment (#16) to permit Section 8 moderate rehabilitation contracts to be renewed at the lower of either the current rents or the HUD fair market rent. Current law permits renewal of such contracts only at the "base rent," which covers only operating expenses and not its debt service, thus placing owners of moderate rehabilitation projects (who may be struggling to pay debt service or finance the purchase of the project) in the position of whether or not to continue providing low-income housing. The sponsor of the amendment is concerned that the "base rent" requirement threatens the availability of affordable housing for low-income families. *Staff Contact: Chris Brinson, x-5-4465*

Mr. Sanford may offer an amendment (#6, #17, or #26) to freeze the funding level for the National Science Foundation's (NSF) research and related activities account at the FY 1998 level (\$2.5 billion). The bill currently increases funding for the account by \$199.3 million. The intent of the amendment is to encourage the NSF to establish a priority system for awarding research grants and thus avoid awarding frivolous grants. *Staff Contact: Scott English, x5-3176*

Mr. Scarborough may offer an amendment to prohibit funds in the bill from be used to carry out Executive Order 13083. Issued on June 14, 1998, the executive order outlines a series of new

“Federalism Policymaking Criteria” that federal agencies must follow when formulating and implementing policies that have federalism implications. The sponsor of the amendment contends that the order establishes broad but ambiguous and possibly unconstitutional tests to justify federal intervention in state and local matters. *Staff Contact: Jennifer Hemingway, x5-4136*

Mr. Stearns may offer an amendment (#27) to ensure that no Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) funds may be used to implement the American Heritage Rivers Initiative. The project, which is coordinated by the CEQ, is a Clinton Administration program initiated in 1997 to grant federal recognition to and coordinate federal aid for restoring locally-nominated rivers. On June 16, 1998, the American Heritage Rivers Initiative Advisory Committee recommended 10 rivers for designation as American Heritage Rivers to the president. Supporters of the project argue that the program is voluntary and a worthwhile endeavor to support local efforts to enhance and restore rivers around the nation. However, critics of the initiative contend that this is yet another federal effort that may well infringe on the prerogatives of local governments and the property rights of private landowners to manage the use of the land. *Staff Contact: Jennifer Scott, x5-5744*

Mr. Tiahrt may offer an amendment (#7) to ensure that \$12.5 million of the funding appropriated for VA medical and prosthetic research (\$310 million for FY 1999) be made available for research on Gulf War illnesses. *Staff Contact: Jeff Kahrs, x5-6216*

Mr. Tiahrt may offer an amendment (#8) to ensure that \$25 million of the funding allocated for VA medical and prosthetic research (\$310 million for FY 1999) be made available for research on Gulf War illnesses. *Staff Contact: Jeff Kahrs, x5-6216*

Mr. Vento may offer an amendment (#10) to increase funding for the emergency food and shelter program by \$30 million and offset the increase by reducing funding for the international space station program by \$43.5 million. The remaining funds will be allocated toward deficit reduction. *Staff Contact: Mark Smith, x5-6631*

Mr. Vento may offer an amendment (#11) to increase funding for the emergency food and shelter program by \$30 million and offset the increase by reducing funding for National Science Foundation research by \$107.4 million. The remaining funds will be allocated toward deficit reduction. *Staff Contact: Mark Smith, x5-6631*

Mr. Waxman may offer an amendment to clarify that certain bill provisions and committee report language restricting various EPA and Council on Environmental Quality actions does not prevent any action that is authorized by current law. Specifically, the restrictions in the bill will not apply to:

- * developing or proposing regulations or rules prior to issuance. The measure currently prohibits funds in the bill from being used to develop, propose, or issue rules, regulations, decrees, or orders for the purpose of implementing the Kyoto Protocol on climate change;
- * conducting educational outreach or informational seminars. The committee report directs the EPA and CEQ to refrain from conducting educational outreach or informational seminars on policies underlying the Kyoto Protocol until the Senate rati-

fies it. The committee expressed concern in the report that the EPA may be engaging in activity that is tantamount to lobbying in an effort to build public support for implementing the protocol;

- * using “brownfields” funds. The bill currently stipulates that brownfields funds may be used *only* for site assessments, developing brownfields and voluntary cleanup programs, and related EPA personnel and administrative costs;
- * issuing regulatory determinations for mercury emissions. The committee report directs the EPA to complete various studies before issuing rules limiting mercury emissions from utilities;
- * using dredging as a remediation tool. The committee report directs the EPA to delay actions that allow dredging to be used as a remedial tool for removing contaminated sediments that contain PCBs in certain waters, until a study has been completed, distributed, and analyzed by all interested parties and Congress.
- * implementing the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA). The committee report directs the EPA to (1) establish public notice and comment when developing its pesticide residue risk assessment policies, (2) devote additional resources to increase the pace of registration actions and emergency exemptions, and (3) minimize the resources needed to review and issue emergency exemptions. The committee is concerned that EPA is not implementing the FQPA in a manner which expedites the registration of new pesticides, ensures the use of reliable data in calculating exposure to pesticide residues, and clearly explains the legal and scientific basis for its policies;
- * implementing the regional haze program. The committee report recommends that the EPA fund the activities of up to eight multi-state visibility transport commissions (VTC), and that these VTCs prepare and begin implementing appropriate, comprehensive work plans, with a goal of completion by March 1, 1999. The committee expressed concern that the EPA is moving forward with a national rule on regional haze without adequately completing its obligations under the Clean Air Act;
- * applying cleanup requirements for facilities licensed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The committee report directs the EPA to continue its longstanding policy of not applying cleanup requirements for NRC-licensed and to spend no funds to enforce cleanup requirements at sites being remediated under regulatory requirements enforced through the NRC licensing procedure. ***Staff Contact: Greg Dotson, x5-3976***

Additional Information: See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVII, #18, July 10, 1998.



H.R. 4276—FY 1999 Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Appropriations Act

Floor Situation: The House is expected to consider the rule and begin general debate on H.R. 4276 after it completes consideration of H.R. 4194. Yesterday, the Rules Committee granted an open rule providing for one hour of general debate, equally divided between the chairman and ranking member of the Appropriations Committee. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill, as well as House rules which prohibit unauthorized appropriations, legislative provisions in an appropriations bill, and reappropriations. It makes in order three specific amendments—by Mr. Mollohan, Mr. Callahan, and Mr. Hefley—and waives points of order against them. The rule accords priority in recognition to members who have their amendments pre-printed in the *Congressional Record*. The chairman of the Committee of the Whole may postpone votes and reduce the voting time on a postponed vote to five minutes, provided that it follows a regular 15-minute vote. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

Summary: H.R. 4276 appropriates \$28 billion for the departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the federal judiciary, and 18 related agencies, \$1.4 billion more than last year and \$1 billion less than President Clinton requested. Together with \$5.5 billion from the Violent Crime Reduction Trust Fund plus mandatory programs, the bill provides a total of \$33.5 billion in new budget authority. The bill focuses on enhancing numerous crime enforcement and reduction initiatives, including (1) \$523 million to restore the local law enforcement block grant, which the president's proposal terminated; (2) \$533 million for juvenile crime and prevention programs; (3) state and local law enforcement assistance from programs such as the president's COPS on the Beat initiative which receives \$1.4 billion; (4) Violence Against Women Act programs; (5) counterterrorism activities and protections against biological and chemical weapons; and (6) enhanced border patrol (including funding for 1,000 additional border patrol agents), criminal alien assistance funding.

H.R. 4276 funds Commerce Department programs including the decennial census preparation (\$956 million), National Weather Service and related programs (\$1.1 billion) included in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (\$2 billion). The bill also eliminates funding for several agencies and commissions that have expired, such as the Commission on Immigration Reform and the Gambling Impact Study Commission. In a similar vein, H.R. 4276 reduces funding for the Legal Services Corporation (LSC) to \$141 million and maintains restrictions on LSC-funded agencies from taking certain cases as outlined in the FY 1998 measure. H.R. 4276 appropriates \$5.5 billion for the State Department and related agencies, \$323 million more than in FY 1998. However, if funding for UN arrearages is counted, the bill provides only \$151 million less than FY 1998. CBO does not complete cost estimates for appropriations bills which have not been enacted. However, the committee estimates that enactment of H.R. 4276 will result in net outlays of \$22.3 billion in FY 1999, \$6.3 billion in FY 2000, \$3.2 billion in FY 2001, \$1.3 billion in FY 2002, and \$144 million in FY 2003 and beyond. H.R. 4276 was submitted by Mr. Rogers on July 20, and was reported by the Appropriations Committee by voice vote on July 15, 1998.

Views: The Republican Leadership supports passage of H.R. 4276. An official Clinton Administration position was unavailable at press time. However, the president has expressed his opposition to the bill's provisions restricting funding for the 2000 census and the Legal Services Corporation. Additionally, administration supporters oppose efforts to alter or block implementation of the president's executive order pertaining to expansion of persons specially protected under federal affirmative action law.

Additional Information: See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVII, #19, July 17, 1998.



PLEASE NOTE: UNDER AN OPEN RULE, MEMBERS MAY OFFER NEW AMENDMENTS TO A BILL AT ANY TIME, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEY HAVE BEEN PRE-PRINTED IN THE *CONGRESSIONAL RECORD*.

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